

Report

FROM CONGRESSMAN ELIOT ENGEL

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Official Business

Eliot L. Engel
M.C.

Presorted Standard

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Dear Friend:

This Report was prepared to update you on some of my recent actions as your Congressman, including obtaining over \$2.5 million in federal funds for Dobbs Ferry, Hastings-on-Hudson, Tarrytown and Irvington.

You can find additional information on my record as your Member of Congress by going to <http://engel.house.gov/>.

As always, if my office can be of assistance to you, please do not hesitate to contact any of my District Offices or my Congressional Office in Washington, D.C.

Also please continue to send me your opinions and suggestions on the issues facing your community and our nation.

Sincerely

Eliot L. Engel

Eliot L. Engel
Member of Congress

Millions Obtained for Local Communities

Since January 2004, Congressman Eliot Engel has obtained over \$2.5 million in federal funds for Dobbs Ferry, Hastings-on-Hudson, Tarrytown and Irvington.

These funds include \$200,000 for the Riverwalk project in Irvington, Community Oriented Police Services grants for the Dobbs Ferry, Hastings-on-Hudson and Irvington police departments, a \$54,000 grant for the Hastings-on-Hudson Fire Department, \$99,410 to renovate a senior and youth community center and funds for Tarrytown's Housing Authority.

A Fund for the Improvement of Education grant was also secured

In addition, tens of millions of dollars were obtained for Westchester, including federal funds to replace old buses with new, fuel efficient ones.

Violence Against Women Act Made Stronger

Congressman Engel was a leader in working to renew and expand the Violence Against Women Act.



Originally passed in 1994, it was the first federal law to acknowledge domestic violence and sexual assaults as specific crimes and to provide funding to combat the violence.

The renewed law increases funding to \$3.9 billion and expands services.

The law now provides resources to domestic violence victims who have problems with housing, landlords and employers. It also provides the first federal funds for rape crisis centers and expands services for children and teens.

Working to Protect People from Identify Theft

As part of his ongoing work to protect Americans from identity theft, Congressman Eliot Engel recently introduced the "Truth in Caller ID Act." The legislation would prevent con artists from using fake Caller ID services.

New technology makes it possible for callers to "spoof" the information on a person's caller ID so it appears the call is coming, for example, from their bank.

This 'spoofing' technology has allowed criminals to get social security numbers, credit card information and other personal information from unsuspecting people.

Congressman Eliot Engel, a member of the House Energy and Commerce Committee's Subcommittee on Telecommunications and the Internet, is co-sponsoring the legislation with the Committee's Chair.

Other actions taken in fighting identity theft include legislation to make the use of "spyware" illegal, to ban the selling of Social Security numbers, to enact a national "freeze" or "opt in" law requiring consent for credit information to be released and to make "phishing" (trying to get personal information by sending an e-mail that appears to be from a trusted source, such as a bank) illegal.

Legislation for Full Funding for Education

Four years ago Members of Congress voted for the "No Child Left Behind Act" because they "were assured that it would be fully funded. Instead we are failing our public school children because Congress has not appropriated adequate funds for education," Engel stated.

To give meaning to the law, Congressman Engel is co-sponsoring the "Keep Our Promise to America's Children and Teachers Act" that calls for full funding for not only the No Child Left Behind Act but also the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act.

In our Congressional District over 56,000 children will be affected by funding cuts. In addition, teacher-training funds also have been reduced.

The Lower Hudson Education Coalition recently praised Engel's action on behalf of education funding.

Opposing Weakened Food Labeling Law

Congressman Eliot Engel voted against the "National Uniformity of Food Act" that will standardize food labeling because the law would end strong local public health and consumer laws across the country.

New York has much stronger food labeling and public health standards than the Federal government. This Act will weaken these protections.

The law could nullify state and local labeling laws that warn people about mercury in fish, lead in candy, arsenic in bottled water, benzene in soft drinks, and dozens of other dangers that strict food labeling could protect people from.

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